

WAIVER PATH DISTINCTIONS

December 29, 2016	OPEN-ENROLLMENT CHARTER	DISTRICT CONVERSION CHARTER	ACT 1240 WAIVER	SCHOOL OF INNOVATION
AUTHORITY	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-301 et seq.	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-201 et seq.	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-103 et seq.	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-2801 et seq.
	ADE Rules Governing Public Charter Schools	ADE Rules Governing Public Charter Schools	No rulemaking authority	ADE Rules Governing Schools of Innovation
APPROVER	Charter Authoring Panel / State Board of Education	Charter Authoring Panel / State Board of Education	State Board of Education	Commissioner of Education
APPLICABILITY	All schools under the charter	Conversion charter only	All schools in the district	School of innovation only
INITIAL TIME LIMIT	5 years	5 years	Although statute states approved as long as the open-enrollment charter is operating, practice has been for districts to limit the requests, most often to five years	4 years
PROCESS LENGTH	17 months	17 months	4 to 6 weeks	12-18 months
INNOVATION STATUE	Innovative teaching methods Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-102(3)	Innovative teaching methods Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-102(3)	None	Innovation definition Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-2801(3)
APPROVAL PROCESS	Applicant holds public hearing prior to application submission	Applicant holds public hearing prior to application submission	District submits petition for State Board of Education consideration	School establishes a Council of Innovation to develop the plan and at least 60% of eligible employees vote for application
	ADE internal group reviews application	ADE internal group reviews application	ADE charter and legal staff review	ADE staff and others review applications received by initial deadline
	Applicant responds to ADE comments	Applicant responds to ADE comments	District revises based on review	Applicant revises based on review
	ADE group notes remaining issues	ADE group notes remaining issues		ADE staff and others review final applications
	At least one public hearing conducted by the Charter Authorizing Panel	At least one public hearing conducted by the Charter Authorizing Panel		
	State Board of Education considers the Panel's decision	State Board of Education considers the Panel's decision	State Board makes the decision	Commissioner makes the final decision
	Board may conduct a second public hearing	Board may conduct a second public hearing		
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Available at anytime by contacting the Charter Office at 501-683-5313	Available at anytime by contacting the Charter Office at 501-682-2130	Available at anytime by contacting the Charter Office at 501-682-2130	Available at anytime by contacting the School of Innovation Office at 501-683-5780
	Meeting, via ZOOM, for Charter Unit staff to consult with each potential applicant after letter of intent is received and again after application is reviewed by ADE	Meeting, via ZOOM, for Charter Unit staff to consult with each potential applicant after letter of intent is received and again after application is reviewed by ADE		Session at Innovation Summit
				Regional Technical Assistance Meetings
	Workshop focused on submitting the application	Workshop focused on submitting the application		Workshop about submitting the application